Philipp Schwartz and Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum 2021

26 and 27 April 2021
(last updated: 12 April 2021)

AGENDA

The Philipp Schwartz and Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum 2021 is convened jointly by the Philipp Schwartz Initiative of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the Inspireurope Project, a consortium of ten partner organisations across Europe that are committed to the protection and support of researchers at risk. Funded under the European Commission’s Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions and led by Scholars at Risk Europe at Maynooth University, Ireland, Inspireurope anchors the work already underway on a national level in different European countries, and lays the groundwork on a European level for durable support structures.

The 2021 Stakeholder Forum will reflect on the first five years of the Philipp Schwartz Initiative, highlight the situation and the work of displaced scholars who have found refuge in other countries, discuss the state of academic freedom in various regions and nations across the globe, and present mutual learning opportunities for at-risk scholars, academic mentors, and higher education administrators working to support at-risk academics and to strengthen academic freedom. In collaboration with Academics in Solidarity, a mentoring programme hosted at Freie Universität Berlin, a particular focus will be placed on offering information and coaching sessions for at-risk scholars who are working towards long-term professional perspectives.

Participants will include Philipp Schwartz fellows, at-risk scholars supported by other organizations, academic mentors, university administrators, partner organisations on a national, a European and a global level, and other attendees from academia, politics, civil society.

The programme represents Central European Time. The expected number of participants is 400; conference language will be English. Please note that this event is by invitation only and requires advance registration.

FUNDERS

The event is part of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation’s Philipp Schwartz Initiative, which is funded by:

The Inspireurope project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 857742.
2021 Philipp Schwartz and Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum

14:00 Opening
Judith Wellen and Frank Albrecht, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
This programme part will be made available to the public via a YouTube stream.

14:05 “The Philipp Schwartz Initiative - 5 Years On”
Enno Aufderheide, Secretary General, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
State Minister Michelle Müntefering, Federal Foreign Office
This programme part will be made available to the public via a YouTube stream.

14:30 European Policy Action for Researchers at Risk:
Bridging the Gaps between Human Rights and Higher Education
Themis Christophidou, Director-General of Education, European Commission
Eamon Gilmore, European Union Special Representative for Human Rights
Moderator: Michael Murphy, President, European University Association
Introduction: Sinead O’Gorman, Scholars at Risk Europe
This programme part will be made available to the public via a YouTube stream.

15:15 Coffee Break

15:45 Parallel Workshops (limited to 50 participants each)

1. Rebuilding a Research Career at the Intersection of Gender and Risk
Ekrem Düzen (Bielefeld University), Yudit Namer (Bielefeld University), Curt Rice (Oslo Metropolitan University), Beate Scholz (Scholz CTC),
This programme part will be made available to the public via a YouTube stream.

2. Academic Freedom and Solidarity after Covid-19
Eylem Camuroglu Cig (University of Bayreuth), Latife Akyüz (Freie Universität Berlin), Melehat Kutun (Humboldt University Berlin)

3. The Loss of Cultural Heritage in Syria
Anas Al Khabour (Lund University), Thomas Meier (University of Heidelberg)

4. Four Years in Germany – Navigating within Academia and Beyond
Hussain Al-Towaie (Technical University of Darmstadt), Birgit Bujard (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation)
5. The Situation of Academic Freedom in Belarus
   Gabriele Freitag (German Association for East European Studies), Vasily Navumau (independent researcher), Denise Roche (SAR Europe), Olga Shparaga (European College of Liberal Arts)

6. The Situation of Academic Freedom in Brazil
   Carlos Mendes Hübner (University of São Paulo), Katrin Kinzelbach (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg)

7. The Situation of Academic Freedom in Turkey
   Esra Demir-Gürsel and Nazan Maksudyan (Freie Universität Berlin), Elçin Aktoprak (Human Rights School, Ankara), Lülüfer Körükmez (HRFT Academy, İzmir), Volkan Cidam (Boğaziçi University)

8. The Researcher and Academic Freedom in West Africa: State of Play, Challenges and Perspectives
   Jean-Philippe Gunn (Université Sorbonne Paris Nord), Zakiyatou Oualet Halatine (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)

   Aysuda Kölemen-Luge (Bard College Berlin), Olga Selin Hünler (Freie Universität Berlin), Ertuğ Tombuş (Humboldt University Berlin), Arien Mack (The New School of Social Research), Sarah Willcox (Scholars at Risk Network)

10. Established Support Programmes: The Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA), the IIE Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF) and the Scholars at Risk Network
    Rose Anderson (SAR), Emily Borzcik (IIE SRF), Stephen Wordsworth (CARA), Alexandros Triantafyllidis (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece)

17:00 Closing and Networking Opportunity
**Tuesday, 27 April 2021**

**For National and International Partner Organizations**

11:30 – 11:35  Welcome and introduction to the day  
Sinead O’Gorman, Scholars at Risk Europe

11:30 – 13:00  Establishing National-Level Actions/Programmes to Support Researchers at Risk  
Existing national support programmes for researchers at risk may provide models for those willing to set up a new programme or activity elsewhere. Finland, France and Germany have established programmes which provide fellowships and other direct support to researchers at risk. Institutions in these and other countries have formed national SAR sections. In this session, aimed at representatives of SAR sections and individual institutions across Europe interested in organising at the national-level, representatives from these programmes will share their insights into what is necessary and helpful to establish a national programme to support researchers at risk.

Frank Albrecht (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation)  
Orla Duke (Scholars at Risk Europe)  
Laura Loheac (Collège de France)  
Sini Piipo (EDUFI)  
Moderator: Ester Gallo (University of Trento/SAR Italy)

**For All Attendees:**

13:00 – 15:00  Virtual Lunchtime Fair  
Partner organizations of the Philipp Schwartz Initiative and the Inspireurope project, including support programmes for researchers at risk and general research funders, will be available for informal conversations and advice, individually or in small groups.

15:00  Parallel Tracks designed for specific target audiences:

- **Track 1:** For At-Risk Scholars (see page 5)  
- **Track 2:** For Academic Mentors and Project Leads at Host Institutions (see page 7)
Track 1: Coaching and Information Sessions for At-Risk Scholars

15:00 - 15:45  Plenary Kick Off: Careers in European Research Systems and in the Private Sector
Gordon Boelling (German Rectors’ Conference), Matthias Ullrich (Evonik Operations GmbH)
Moderator: Beate Scholz (Scholz CTC)

15:45 - 16:15  Coffee Break

For the coaching sessions in Track 1, the Philipp Schwartz Initiative is proud to partner with “Academics in Solidarity” (AiS), drawing on their immense experience as a peer-mentoring program that connects exiled researchers and established scholars in Germany, Lebanon and Jordan. It seeks to create a network of solidarity, strengthen the value of cross-cultural research cooperation and open up new perspectives within the academic environment of the host country. AiS offers support to displaced and endangered scholars through mentoring, academic counselling, systematic network building, and funding of small research endeavors. It further benefits mentors by offering them special training as well as administrative and technical support both prior to and throughout the mentoring process. The project is hosted by Freie Universität Berlin and funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

16:15 – 18:00  Parallel Coaching Sessions
Most coaching sessions are limited to 15 places. Some include follow-up sessions in the days after the Forum.

1. Career Strategies within/beyond Academia for STEM Scholars (15 participants)
   Thomas Koch, academic futures
   Follow Up: 28.04.2021: 09.00-15.00
   Navigate the German research and innovation system; recognise your strength and development needs; set realistic goals; create a road map for personal setting; address job applications more effectively

2. Career Strategies within/beyond Academia for STEM Scholars (15 participants)
   Christine Issa, Saminworld
   Follow Up: 30.04.2021: 09.00-13.30
   Career paths and opportunities between academia/profit/non-profit; academic and non-academic employers’ perspectives and expectations; mobility and flexibility between work and individual frameworks; developing a skills profile from motivations, values and capabilities; orientation about different career paths and employers’ interest; awareness for “springboard” opportunities in or out of German academia; development of a professional skills profile

3. Career Strategies within/beyond academia for Social Sciences and Humanities Scholars (15 participants)
   Ulrike Schneeberg, deinemonster.de
   Follow Up: 29.04.2021: 09.00-13.00 and 30.04.2021: 09.00-13.00
   Gain orientation; identify strengths, values, motivations; learn storytelling techniques for effective self-presentation; understand differences between job hunting/job applications within and outside academia

4. Career Strategies within/beyond Academia for Social Sciences and Humanities Scholars (15 participants)
   Anke Soemer, academic futures
   Follow Up: 28.04.2021: 09.00-15.00
   Navigate the German research and innovation system; recognise your strength and development needs; set realistic goals; create a road map for personal setting; address job applications more effectively

5. Strategic Networking (15 participants)
   Eva Reichmann, beruf & leben
   Follow Up: 30.04.2021: 09.00-12.00
   Analyse your existing network for options to enhance it; define what you can bring into a network (potential analysis); develop a strategy for networking, targeting your individual goal; use communication techniques for successful networking; design an action plan to transfer learning outcomes
6. **Writing Successful Research Project Proposals** (15 participants)
   *Annette Kolb*, coachademics  
   **Follow Up:** 28.04.2021: 09.30-16.30  
   The fundraising process in science; overview of the fundraising landscape for science in Germany and the EU; changing the perspective: the reviewers point of view (group exercise, plenum discussion; the logic and essence of a grant proposal (input from trainer); basics of proposal writing (input from trainer, individual and group exercises, plenum discussions); strategic considerations: structure and style

7. **Access to Industry Job Markets for STEM Scholars** (15 participants)
   *Philipp Gramlich*, NaturalScience.Careers  
   **Follow Up:** 28.04.2021: 09.00-11.00 & 14.00-16.00 and 29.04.-09.05.2021  
   Introspection: making plans based on a closer look at yourself; career options; networking; scoring a job; salary negotiations

8. **How to be more Employable in the Private Sector** (15 participants)
   *David M. Giltner*, TurningScience  
   **Follow Up:** 28.04.2021: 14.00-17.00 & 29.04.2021: 14.00-17.00  
   How is industry different than academia? Can a scientist build a rewarding industry career? How to design your private sector career path; impressing an industry manager; overcoming job search challenges

9. **Tending Ourselves, Tending the World:**  
   **Introduction to Mindfulness for Activists/Academics at Risk** (20 participants)  
   *Ayşe Dayı*, Orca Dreams  
   Introduction to mindfulness; guided practice; please wear comfortable clothes

10. **Digital Security Dimensions of Working Remotely** (40 participants)
    *Peter Steudtner*, holistic security & media projects  
    Raising awareness for the importance of including digital protection measures into research activities; Creating preparedness for “digital emergencies”; Creating sensitivity towards the interlinkedness of different areas of security for researchers at risk

11. **Reimagining your Career Path – Establishing a Start-up** (15 participants)
    *Christine Reuter & Oliver Schmidt*, FU Berlin  
    Turning a great idea into an enterprise – where to start? Funding options – who can help? Existing examples – open discussion

12. **European Research Funding - Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions and ERC Grants for Frontier Research** (15 participants)
    *Thomas Weitner & Edda Nitschke*, FU Berlin  
    EU research funding – what is the most adequate funding scheme for me? MSCA – individual career development and innovative research. ERC – ground breaking research by excellent individuals. Where do I find further information and guidance?

13. **Career Paths within Academia and Alternative Options** (15 participants)
    *Matthias Merklebach*, impulsplus  
    Job profile and employment options; Career pathways inside and outside of German academia; Typical prerequisites of potential employers; Main aspects of networking and self-marketing; Intercultural awareness

16:15 – 18:00 **Parallel Plenary: Managing Transitions – Reports from Academia and the Private Sector**  
Alumni describe their paths from temporary to longer-term positions in academia and beyond.  
Moderator: Marion Gues (PAUSE)

18:00 **Closing and Networking Opportunity**
Track 2: Programme for Academic Mentors and Host Institution Representatives

15:00 – 16:30 Parallel Workshops

Workshop 1: For Academic Mentors across Europe
Academic Mentors are essential in the support structure of researchers at risk by providing academic guidance, by helping them navigate challenges in their new academic environment, by opening academic and professional networks and by helping them prepare their next steps after the current placement. This workshop aims to foster exchange among academic mentors from across Europe, inviting them to discuss their expectations and experiences with regard to supporting researchers at risk.

Ulrike Freitag (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient)
Doris Jorde (University of Oslo)
Jonathan Ngeh (University of Cologne)
Moderator: Karolina Catoni (University of Gothenburg/SAR Sweden)

Workshop 2: For Philipp Schwartz Host Institution Staff: Administering Philipp Schwartz Grants
Aimed at representatives of Philipp Schwartz Initiative grantee institutions, this workshop will offer advice on administrative questions, in particular recent programme adjustments, and provide an opportunity for exchange and mutual learning.

Frank Albrecht (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation)
Nina Marsh (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation)
Sandro Minafra (ETL-Heimfarth Auditors)

16:30 Closing and Networking Opportunity

Wednesday, 28 April 2021

Post Forum Satellites (by invitation only)
10:00 Steering Group SAR Germany Section
   (60 minutes, videoconference)
11:30 Inspireurope Coordinating Committee Meeting
14:00 Inspireurope Advisory Council Meeting